GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2128
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
CABLE T.V. FACILITY TO MTNL/ BSNL SUBSCRIBERS .
Mishra Dr. Rajesh Kumar;Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) propose to provide Cable T.V. facility in the homes through broadband by means of telephone lines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the conditions laid down for providing the above facility;

(d) the capacity available with the MTNL/BSNL for providing this facility; and

(e) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) MTNL has launched Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) in Delhi and Mumbai in the month of October, 2006 and broadband customers of MTNL can avail this service.

BSNL has floated an Expression of Interest (EOI) for provision of IPTV and other content based services to its broadband customers through franchise route on non-exclusive, revenue share basis. Though the priority for initial roll out is planned to be major cities, services are planned to be rolled out in all cities falling in BSNL`s area of operation for which franchisees agreement has already been signed for service delivery in Pune, Bangalore and Chennai city.

(c) IPTV of MTNL is a value added service under basic service licence and for BSNL, through franchise route on non-exclusive, revenue share basis.

(d) The capacity of MTNL is 5.2 lakhs line of broadband ports, which can provide IPTV services. However, being one of the latest technologies, there is a difficulty in availability of set top boxes required to deliver IPTV service and steps have been taken to make this service available. BSNL has not launched this service commercially.

(e) The time frame for BSNL as specified in the EOI, is six months from the date of signing of agreement.